

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT Third Institute of Hygiene, Kiev

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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2. Dr. Tymko and his associates did not obtain their own building until 1938. This was on the corner of Schevchenko Blvd and Pushkin St. It was a fairly large two-story building and although no security measures were in evidence, [redacted] it was closely watched by the NKVD. It was forbidden to enter this building without a special permit. [redacted]

there were a number of non-Communists employed at the Institute who were always under suspicion. Although Dr Tymko was the director of the Institute, his principal function was non-scientific and he was in all probability an NKVD agent. Also on the staff was Dr (fau) Gershenevich, who concentrated on bio-chemical research. Shortly before the start of World War II, he left the Institute and assumed the position of Professor of

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Biochemistry at the Stalingrad Medical Institute.

Gershenovich was not, a convinced Communist but was certainly an opportunist. Another staff member was (fnu) Pollak, a professor of hygiene who was supposed to be interested in the influence of poisonous gases on food stuffs.

laboratory technicians at the Institute performed experiments on humans but no way of knowing whether or not this is true. The men mentioned above were the top staff people; there were others plus some lesser scientists and a staff of laboratory technicians.

3. (fnu) Cherkes, mentions in his popular textbook entitled Toxicology of War Gases (Toxikologiya Voennykh Gazov), the work of Gershenovich on phosgene. This tends to confirm the rumors in Kiev. Cherkes was a prominent pharmacologist from Odessa who specialized in vitamins. His book also states that most experimental work in this field in the USSR was performed in Moscow.
4. After Dr Tymko and his associates moved into their new building in 1938 they had absolutely no contact with outside scientists. the date 1938 may be of some significance. It is possible that prior to that time, research in the USSR in the field of war gases was confined to the better-known gases such as phosgene and di-phosgene. It may be that in 1938 it was decided at a policy-making level to increase the scope of this kind of research and to work on new or at least less well-known substances. Dr Tymko's receiving a new building for his work may have been a symptom of this change in policy.

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